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Applicant SCHILLER, Harald et al	

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(54) Title: METHOD FOR ADDRESSING A BITSTREAM RECORDING

(57) Abstract

In bitstream recording presentation data is organised into Video Object Units. These have a variable size but have also a variable duration. To allow access to any Video Object Unit in the bitstream a housekeeping address table is used which is based on pieces (VOBU#n) of the bitstream of constant size per piece. The address table additionally contains for each of these pieces a specific delta duration ($\Delta \text{DUR}\#n$) which indicates the time difference between the arrival time of the first packet of a piece and the arrival time of the packet following immediately the last packet of that piece. The computation of the target VOB address includes the following steps: accumulate the delta durations until the given time value is most closely reached towards the target VOB; the running index of this table entry multiplied by the constant piece size directly results in the address value to be accessed.

	VOBU#n	$\Delta \text{DUR}\#n$
DAV →	VOBU#i	$\Delta \text{DUR}\#i$
	VOBU#3	$\Delta \text{DUR}\#3$
	VOBU#2	$\Delta \text{DUR}\#2$
	VOBU#1	$\Delta \text{DUR}\#1$

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METHOD FOR ADDRESSING A BITSTREAM RECORDING

5 The invention relates to a method and to an apparatus for addressing a bitstream to be recorded or being recorded on a storage medium, e.g. an optical disc.

10 Background

In bitstream recording one is free to subdivide the bitstream into sub-units of more regular structure. Presentation data in DVDs (digital video or versatile disc) is organised into units called Video Object Unit, denoted VOB, e.g. in the RTRW Specification for Realtime Rewritable Video DVDs. VOBs have a variable size (data amount measured in number of sectors), but have also a variable duration (measured in number of video fields).

For data retrieval from the disc the RTRW specification foresees a 'VOB map' which is a table where for every VOB in a recording the length in sectors and the duration in fields is entered.

25 Invention

A table for data retrieval from a storage medium can be based on bitstream data being subdivided into pieces of constant duration. 'Duration' means the difference between the arrival time of the first packet of a piece and the arrival time of the packet following immediately the last packet of that piece.

35 'Housekeeping' in the general context of either RTRW recording or Stream recording is the task to translate a given time value (presentation time in case of RTRW recording or packet arrival time in case of Stream recording) into a disc address value where the desired data can be found.

In such systems the VOB map or 'housekeeping address table', denoted HAT, can contain a specific size or a specific offset or a specific delta size or, in general, a specific address-like quantity for each of these constant-duration
5 pieces. By storing delta values instead of the total duration at a current VOB these entries can be described with shorter word length which helps to keep the total VOB map in a reasonable size.

A possible type of housekeeping process for these systems
10 could include the following steps:

- By division and truncation, calculate from the given time value the index of the table entry to be looked up.
- The content of the table entry either directly specifies the address value to access, or all table entries up to
15 that index have to be accumulated to get the address value to be accessed.

The big disadvantage of such type of HAT which is based on constant-duration pieces lies in the following:

- 20 - In case of a low bitrate recording the pieces of constant duration will be small in size, i.e. every piece will comprise a few data sectors only or, in the extreme, a fraction of a data sector only. The disc can contain enormous numbers of those pieces, so that the HAT may become too big to be kept in the memory.
- 25 - In case of high bitrate recording, the pieces of constant duration are big in size, i.e. each piece will comprise many data sectors. Then, addressing one piece or another corresponds to a very coarse addressing on the (sector) scale, i.e. a piece address derived from the HAT can be
30 located many sectors away from the currently desired location.

Therefore housekeeping based on constant-duration pieces can result in a too big HAT in some cases (up to one half of the
35 disc capacity), and can result in too coarse addressing in other cases.

It is one object of the invention to disclose a method for assigning to a given time value a storage medium address value which method avoids such disadvantages. This object is achieved by the method disclosed in claim 1.

5

According to the invention the housekeeping address table HAT is based on pieces of constant length or size, i.e. a constant number of bits per piece.

In a medium like DVD-RAM where data are physically organised into 'ECC blocks' (ECC: error correction code) of 32kByte length each, particular advantages result if the above constant size or a multiple of it is used as the constant size of a piece. However, any other constant size can be used. In this case of pieces of constant size the HAT contains for each of these pieces of constant size a specific absolute duration or, preferably, a specific delta duration which indicates the arrival time difference between the last and the first packet contained in a piece.

The housekeeping process, i.e. the computation of the target VOB address includes the following steps:

- Accumulate the delta durations contained in the HAT until the given time value is most closely reached towards the target VOB, i.e. until the sum of delta durations is less than or equal to the given time value assuming that forward scanning of the VOB entries is performed, or until the sum of delta durations is greater than or equal to the given time value assuming that backward scanning of the VOB entries is performed.
- The running index of this table entry multiplied by the constant piece size directly results in the address value to be accessed.

The advantages of the inventive constant-size based HAT are:

- the HAT size does not depend on the bitrate of the recordings,
- the HAT addressing accuracy is constant, the granularity

basically corresponds to the 'piece size constant' which can be chosen as appropriate to be constant for all types of discs, to be constant per disc, or to be constant per recording on a specific disc.

5

In principle, the inventive method is suited for addressing a bitstream to be recorded or being recorded on a storage medium, e.g. a DVD recorder, wherein an address table is used that is based on pieces of said bitstream, and wherein:

- 10 - said pieces each include a constant amount of bits of said bitstream;
- to each address table entry for said pieces an absolute time duration or a delta time duration is assigned in said address table using a running index;
- 15 - in case of absolute time duration values storage:
in order to get an address value for reaching a target address the nearest corresponding absolute time duration entry of said address table is selected and the corresponding running index becomes multiplied by said constant amount in order to compute said address value, or,
- 20 - in case of delta time duration values storage:
in order to get an address value for reaching a target address all delta time durations up to the nearest time duration corresponding to said address value become accumulated and the running index corresponding to the delta
- 25 time duration entry related to said nearest time duration becomes multiplied by said constant amount in order to compute said address value.

30 Advantageous additional embodiments of the inventive method are disclosed in the respective dependent claims.

Drawings

35

Embodiments of the invention are described with reference to

the accompanying drawings, which show in:

Fig. 1 simplified overall system for DVD Stream Recording;

Fig. 2 basic directory and file structure;

Fig. 3 navigation data structure;

5 Fig. 4 stream pack;

Fig. 5 inventive housekeeping address table;

Fig. 6 Stream Time Map Information;

Fig. 7 mapping list example.

10

Exemplary embodiments

The DVD Stream Recording system is designed to use rewritable DVD discs for recording existing digital bitstreams, editing them and playing them back as bitstreams.

15 The following abbreviations are used:

LB: Logical Block, RBN: relative byte number, RBP: relative byte position, RLBN: relative logical block number, STB: set top box, TOC: table of content, SCR: system clock reference.

20

This system is designed to satisfy the following requirements:

Any packet size is supported as long as it is less than 2kByte and of constant length within a take.

25 A timing mechanism, ~~i.e. a time stamp is added to every~~ broadcast packet to enable proper packet delivery during playback.

To enlarge the fields of applications, non-real-time recording should be possible. However, in this case the STB has to generate the Time Stamp information.

30 Data allocation strategy and file support real-time stream recording.

Many digital services require Service Information which normally is embedded in the real-time stream. To support a STB fed by data from a DVD player, the DVD should provide additional space, which can be used by the STB to duplicate part

of the service information and to add additional TOC information.

Copy Protection must be supported. In addition, any scrambling performed by the service provider or the STB must be kept unchanged.

User requirements can be grouped into requirements for recording, requirements for playback, and requirements for editing:

Real-time Recording

The system should be designed to enable real-time recording of digital streams. It also should allow the user to concatenate recordings, even if those recordings consist of different stream formats. If recordings are concatenated, a seamless or close to seamless playback possibility would be nice but is not required.

Navigation Support

To support navigation two pieces of information (lists) should be generated during recording:

1) An 'original' version of a play list. This list contains quite low level information, e.g. time map or (broadcast) packet order of the recording. This list is accessible by the STB and the content is understood by the DVD streamer as well as by the STB. In its original version the playlist enables the playback of a complete recording. The playlist may be accessed and extended after recording by the STB to allow more sophisticated playback sequences.

2) The second piece of information, a mapping list, is generated to support the stream recorder to retrieve packet stream chunks (cells), that are described in terms of the application domain, e.g. 'broadcast packets' or 'time'. This list is owned and understood by the DVD streamer only.

Content Description

The system should reserve space which can be used by the STB to store high level TOC and Service Information. This infor-

mation is provided for the user to navigate through the content stored on disc and may contain sophisticated GUI information. The content needs not to be understood by the stream recorder. However a common subset of the TOC information,
5 e.g. based on a character string, may be useful to be shared between STB and DVD, in order to enable the stream recorder to provide a basic menu by itself.

Playback of individual recording and playing all recordings
10 sequentially should be possible via play list.

Player menus for entry point selection

The STB can generate a sophisticated menu based on the TOC information stored on the disc. However, it should be possible to generate a simple menu by the streamer itself, e.g.
15 via some 'character' information which is shared by STB and DVD.

Trick play modes

20 The STB should be able to steer trick play via the 'play list'. Due to the nature of the broadcast stream, the trick play features may be limited to basic ones, e.g. Time Search and Title Jump.

User defined playback sequence features like programming or
25 parental control can be supported via the play list

The DVD streamer should create the 'original version' of the play list. It also should allow extensions and modifications of the play list by the STB for more sophisticated playback
30 features. The DVD streamer is not responsible for the content of those sophisticated playlist(s).

The system must support the deletion of single recordings on user's request. If possible, the system should allow this
35 feature under the control of the STB.

The system may support insert editing.

In the simplified overall system of Fig. 1 an application device AD interacts via an interface IF, e.g. an IEEE1394 interface, with a streamer device STRD, i.e. a DVD recorder. A streamer STR within STRD sends its data via output buffering & timestamping handling means BTHO to IF and receives from IF data via input buffering & timestamping handling means BTHI. AD sends its data via output buffering & timestamping handling means BTHO to IF and receives from IF data via input buffering & timestamping handling means BTHIAD.

Concerning the directory and file structure, the organisation of Stream Data and Navigation Data of DVD Stream Recording is done in a specific way such as to take into account the following:

- Any DVD Streamer device STRD has certain requirements to store its own housekeeping data or Streamer-specific navigation data on the disc. These data are solely for helping the retrieval of recorded data; they need not be understood or even be visible to any outside application device AD.
- Any DVD Streamer device STRD needs to communicate with the application device AD it is connected to. This communication should be as universal as possible so that the maximum possible range of applications can be connected to the Streamer. The Navigation Data to support such communication are called Common navigation data and must be understandable by the Streamer as well as by the application device.
- The Streamer device STRD should offer to the connected application device AD a means for storing its own private data of any desired kind. The Streamer needs not to understand any of the content, internal structure, or meaning of this Application-specific navigation data.

Fig. 2 illustrates a possible directory and file structure

where all the data comprising the disc content are. The files storing the disc content are placed under the STRREC directory which is under the root directory. Under the STRREC directory the following files are created:

- 5 - COMMON.IFO
 Basic information to describe the stream content. Needs to be understood by the Application Device as well as the Streamer.
- STREAMER.IFO
- 10 Private housekeeping information specific to the Streamer Device. Needs not to be understood by the Application Device.
- APPLICAT.IFO
 Application Private Data, i.e. information that is specific to the Application(s) connected to the Streamer.
- 15 Needs not to be understood by the Streamer.
- REALTIME.SOB
 Recorded real-time stream data proper.

Note that except for the files described above, the STRREC
20 directory shall not contain any other files or directories.

Concerning the navigation data structure, Navigation data is provided to control the recording, playing back, and editing of any bitstreams that are recorded. As shown in Fig. 3,
25 Navigation Data includes Stream Management Information (SMI) as contained in the file named COMMON.IFO and Housekeeping Information (HKPI) as contained in the file named STREAMER.IFO. From the point of view of the Streamer Device, these two kinds of information are sufficient to perform all
30 necessary operations.

In addition to these, DVD Stream Recording also foresees the possibility of reserving a storage location for Application Private Data (APD), which may in general also be considered as Navigation Data.

35 SMI and HKPI are the Navigation Data which are directly relevant for the Streamer operation. SMI includes three kinds of information tables, namely Stream Manager General

Information (SM_GI), Stream Title Table (STT), and Stream Playlist Table (SPLT), in this order. HKPI includes two kinds of information tables, namely Housekeeping General Information (HKP_GI) and Housekeeping Address Table (HAT), in this order.

There is no restriction in Stream Recording that each table within Navigation Information must be aligned with a sector boundary.

SM_GI includes information items like end address of SMI, end address of SM_GI, start address of STT and start address of SPLT.

STT includes information items like Number of Stream Titles, End Address of Stream Title Table, Application Packet Size, Service ID, Application Device ID, Stream Duration, Stream Name Search Pointer, Stream Title Names (STN).

SPLT includes information items like Number of Playlists, End address of SPLT, Start Addresses of Playlist Information, Number of Playlist Entries, Index of Stream Title, Start SCR, and End SCR.

Housekeeping General Information (HKP_GI) includes information items like Number of Housekeeping Address Entries (HAE_Ns), End address of HKPI (HKPI_EA) and Time Scale Factor (HKP_TSCAL).

HAE_Ns describes the number of housekeeping address entries contained in this HKPI. HKPI_EA describes the End Address of this HKPI. HKP_TSCAL describes the time scaling used within this HKPI.

The purpose of the inventive Housekeeping Address Table (HAT) is to provide all necessary information so that given playlist entries are efficiently translated into disc address pairs, and viceversa.

It is also possible to include Application Private Data which consist of three kinds of information, namely Applica-

tion Private Data General Information, a set of one or more Application Private Data Search Pointers, and a set of one or more Application Private Data Area. If any Application Private Data exists, these three kinds of information become
5 recorded and stored in this order in the APPLICAT.IFO file.

Stream Data include one or more 'Stream Objects' (SOBs) which each can be stored as a 'Program stream' as described
10 in ISO/IEC 13818-1, Systems.

A SOB can be terminated by a program_end_code. The value of the SCR field in the first pack of each SOB may be non-zero. A SOB contains the Stream Data packed into a sequence of 'Stream Packs' (S_PCKs). Stream data can be organised as one
15 elementary stream and are carried in PES packets with a stream_id.

As shown in Fig. 4 a Stream Pack includes a pack header, eventually followed by a system header, and followed by one
20 Stream Packet (S_PKT). A system header may be included in those S_PCKs which are the first S_PCK of a SOB. When a system header is included, the length of the remaining Stream Pack content is 2010 bytes, when it is not included, the length of Stream Pack content is 2034 bytes.

25 A stream Object is composed of one or more Stream Packs.

The HAT table depicted in Fig. 5 contains for each piece or VOB (VOB#1 to VOB#n) of the bitstream to be recorded or
30 of the recorded bitstream a corresponding absolute or delta time duration entry $\Delta\text{DUR}\#1$ to $\Delta\text{DUR}\#n$. DAC denotes a desired address or target address in the bitstream. VOB#1 to VOB#n each concern a constant number of bits of the bitstream.

35 The HAT table can have the format of a Stream Time Map Information STMPI and may include two sub-units: "Stream Time

Map General Information" STMAP_GI and one "Mapping List"

MAPL. A possible content of STMAPI is shown in Fig. 6.

MAPU_SZ describes the size in sectors of the mapping list units. A Mapping Unit Size of e.g. 16 sectors means that the first Mapping List Entry relates to the application packets contained in the first 16 sectors of the Stream, the second Mapping List Entry relates to the application packets contained in the next 16 sectors, and so on.

MTU_SHFT describes the weight of the LSB of the mapping list entries, relative to the bits of the Packet Arrival Time (PAT) Describing Format. MTU_SHFT describes a value between 16 and 36. A value of e.g. "16" means that the LSB of Incremental Application Packet Arrival Time IAPAT has the same weight as PAT_base[0], whereby PAT_base[x] means a PAT base value measured by 90kHz units.

MTU_SHFT depends on MAPU_SZ. MTU_SHFT fulfils the rules:

$$0 \leq 5625 \cdot 2^{34} \cdot \frac{MAPU_SZ}{2^{MTU_SHFT} \cdot max_bitrate} - 1 < 1$$

and

$$16 \leq MTU_SHFT \leq 36$$

wherein

max_bitrate = maximum bitrate of the MPEG-2 Program Stream.

MAPL_ENT_Ns describes the number of Mapping List Entries to follow after STMAP_GI.

S_S_APAT describes the start Application Packet Arrival Time of the Stream, i.e. the packet arrival time of the first packet belonging to the Stream.

S_E_APAT describes the end Application Packet Arrival Time of the Stream, i.e. the packet arrival time of the last packet belonging to the Stream.

The Mapping List MAPL consists of zero or more "Incremental Application Packet Arrival Times" IAPAT. IAPAT describes the Incremental Application Packet Arrival Time of the corre-

sponding Mapping Unit in DVD Stream Recording's Incremental PAT Describing Format defined in the following:

Let $MAPU_S_APAT(i)$, $1 \leq i \leq MAPL_ENT_Ns$, be the start Application Packet Arrival Time of the Mapping Unit #i, i.e. the packet arrival time of the first packet belonging to the Mapping Unit #i; let $MAPU_E_APAT(i)$ be the last Application Packet Arrival Time of the Mapping Unit #i, i.e. the packet arrival time of the last packet belonging to the Mapping Unit #i and let $IAPAT(i)$ be the i-th IAPAT entry of the Mapping List, i.e. $IAPAT(1)$ is the first entry of the Mapping List. Then $IAPAT(i)$ shall fulfil the rules:

$$0 \leq \left[\sum_{k=1}^i IAPAT(k) \right] - \frac{MAPU_S_APAT(i+1)}{2^{MTU_SHFT}} < 1$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, MAPL_ENT_Ns-1$,

and

$$0 < \left[\sum_{k=1}^i IAPAT(k) \right] - \frac{MAPU_E_APAT(i)}{2^{MTU_SHFT}} \leq 1$$

for $i = MAPL_ENT_Ns$,

and

$$0 \leq IAPAT(i) < 2^{12}$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, MAPL_ENT_Ns$.

Fig. 7 shows an example of the order of $MAPU$, $MAPU_S_APAT$, $MAPU_E_APAT$ and $IAPAT$. The lower side of the t-axis is divided in IAPAT Time Units and the upper side of the t-axis in the MAPUs.

$MAPU_S_APAT(i)$ and $MAPU_E_APAT(i)$ are described in the DVD Stream Recording's PAT Describing Format. For the comparison in the equation above $MAPU_S_APAT(i)$ and $MAPU_E_APAT(i)$ are treated as e.g. 6 byte unsigned integer values.

The duration of $IAPAT = 1$ is the

$$\text{Time Unit of IAPAT} = \frac{2^{MTU_SHFT}}{5625 \cdot 2^{20}} \text{ seconds.}$$

In Stream recording, the application performs its own padding, so that the pack length adjustment methods of DVD-ROM Video or RTRW need not to be used. In Stream recording it is safe to assume, that the Stream packets will always have the
5 necessary length.
The data stream also contains time stamps, e.g. within the data packets.

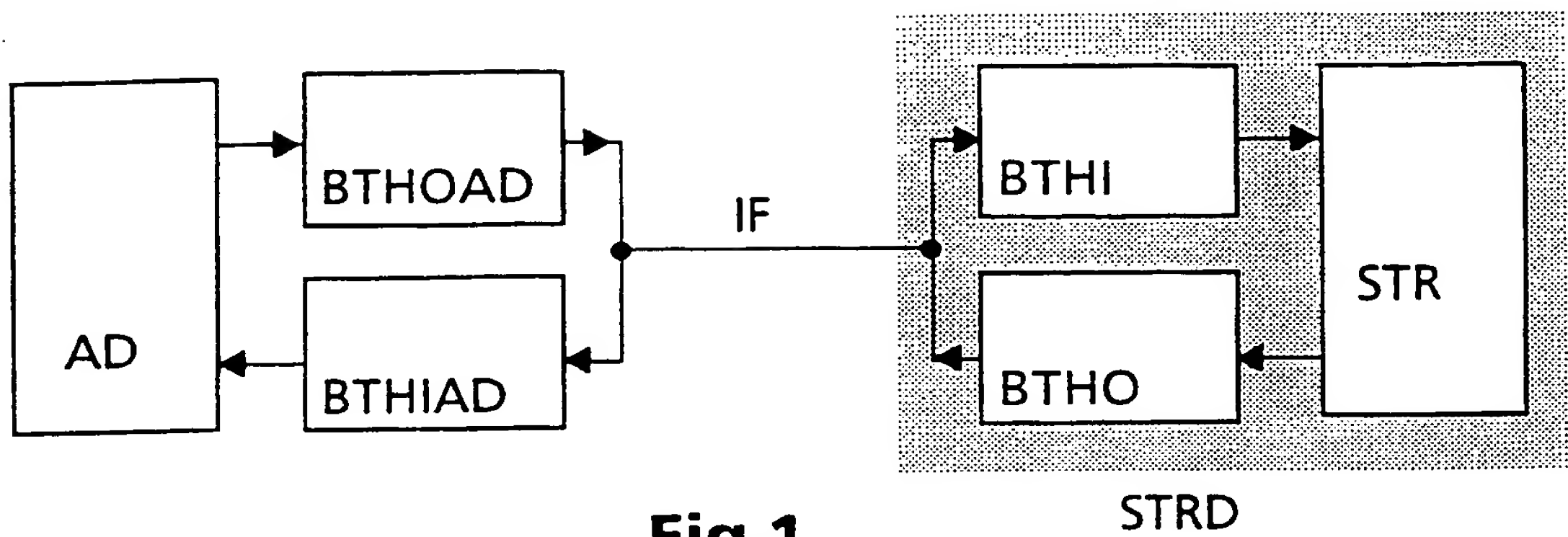
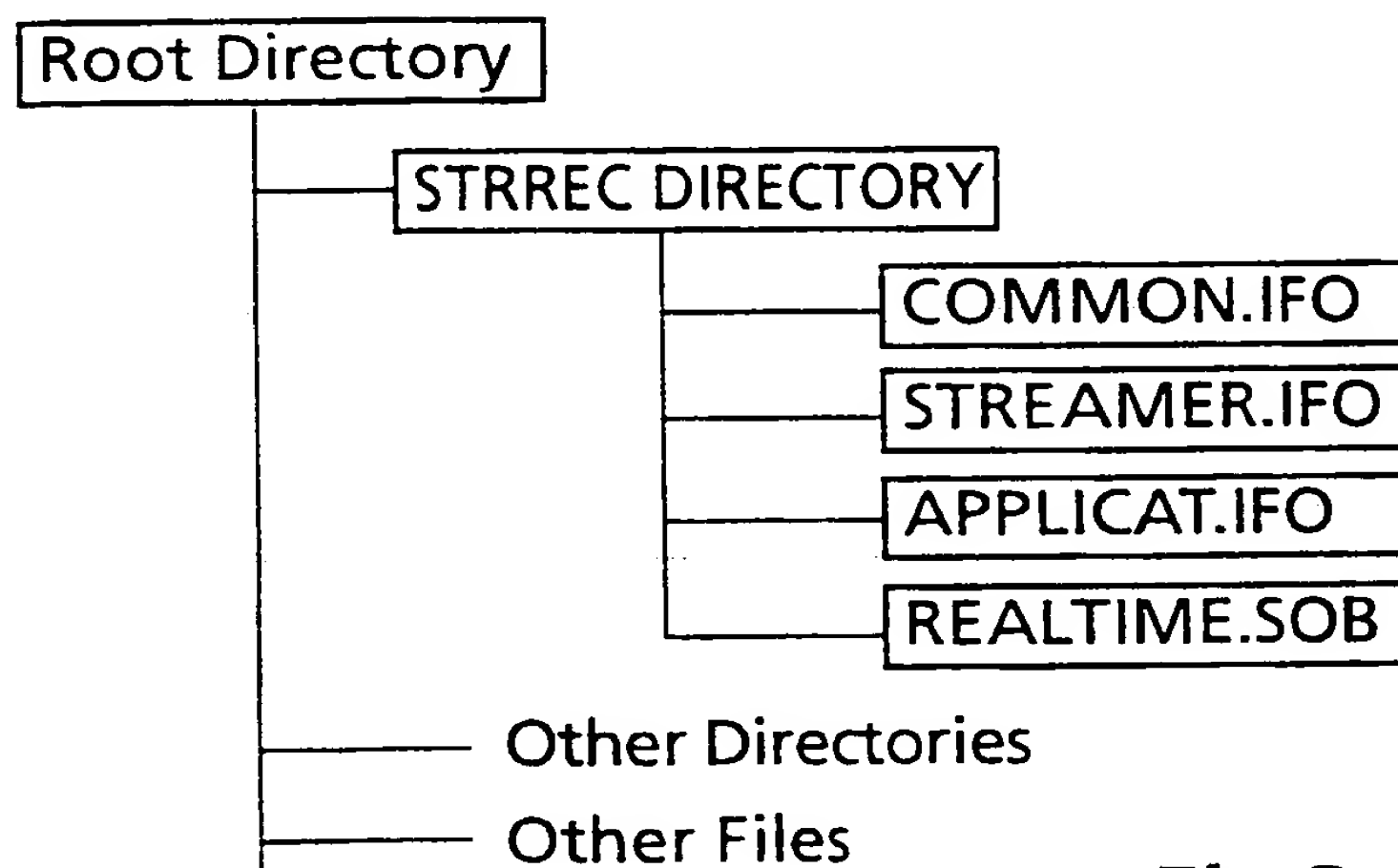
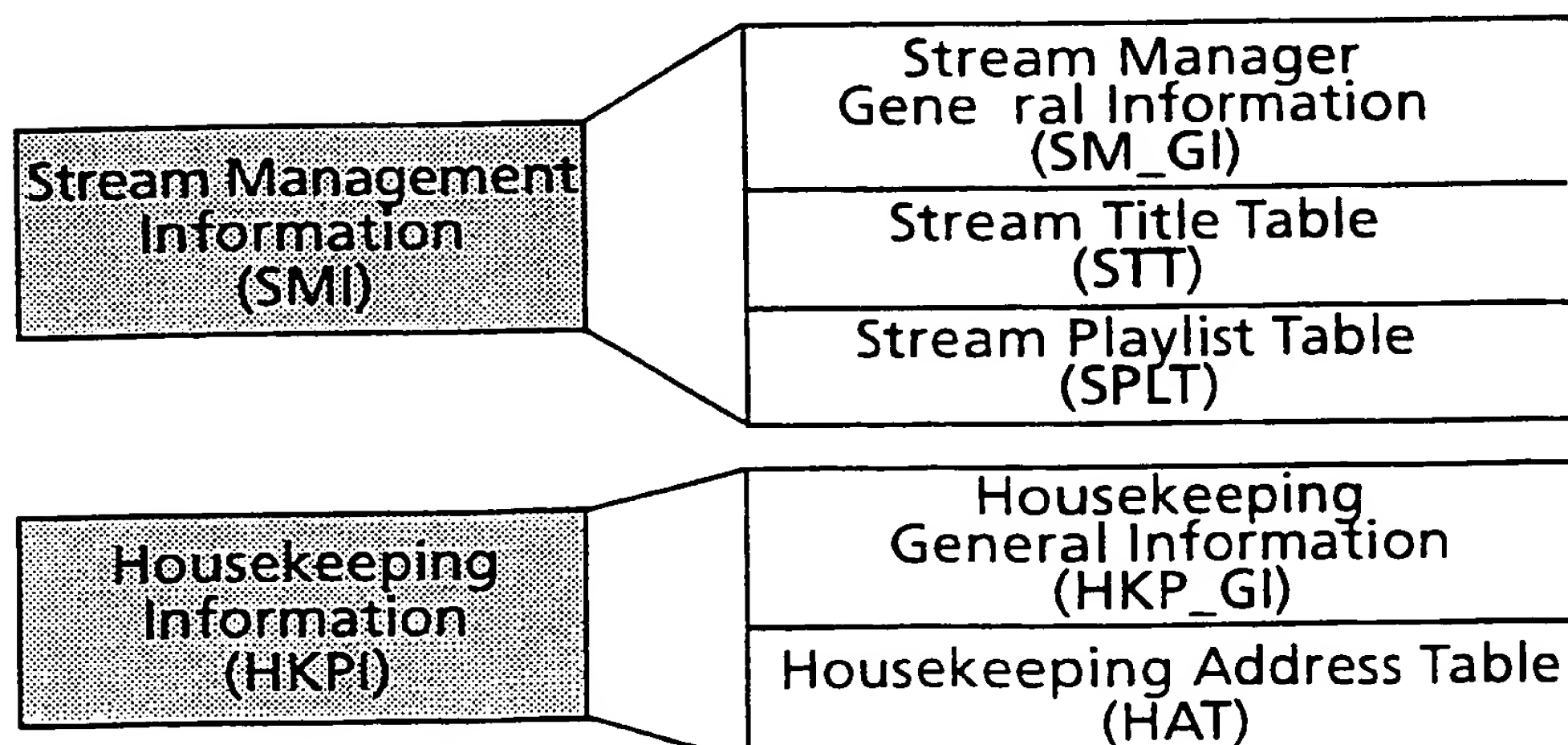
Claims

- 5 1. Method for addressing a bitstream to be recorded or being recorded on a storage medium (STRD), wherein an address table (HAT) is used that is based on pieces (VOBU#n) of said bitstream, **characterised** by:
- 10 - said pieces (VOBU#n) each include a constant amount of bits of said bitstream;
 - to each address table entry for said pieces an absolute time duration or a delta time duration ($\Delta\text{DUR}\#n$) is assigned in said address table using a running index (1, 2, 3, ..., n);
 - 15 - in case of absolute time duration values storage: in order to get an address value for reaching a target address (DAV) the nearest corresponding absolute time duration entry ($\Delta\text{DUR}\#i$) of said address table (HAT) is selected and the corresponding running index (i) becomes
 - 20 multiplied by said constant amount in order to compute said address value, or,
 - in case of delta time duration values storage: in order to get an address value for reaching a target address (DAV) all delta time durations ($\Delta\text{DUR}\#1$, ...
 - 25 $\Delta\text{DUR}\#i$) up to the nearest time duration value corresponding to said address value become accumulated and the running index (i) corresponding to the delta time duration entry ($\Delta\text{DUR}\#i$) related to said nearest time duration value becomes multiplied by said constant amount in order
 - 30 to compute said address value.
2. Method according to claim 1, wherein said storage medium (STRD) is a Streamer device or a DVD recorder.
- 35 3. Method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said pieces (VOBU#n) of said bitstream contain data packets and a delta time duration value which is the difference between

the arrival time of the first packet of a piece and the
arrival time of the packet following immediately the last
5 data packet of that piece.

4. Method according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the
size of a piece corresponds to the number of bits of an
ECC block or a multiple thereof.

1/3

**Fig.1****Fig.2****Fig.3**

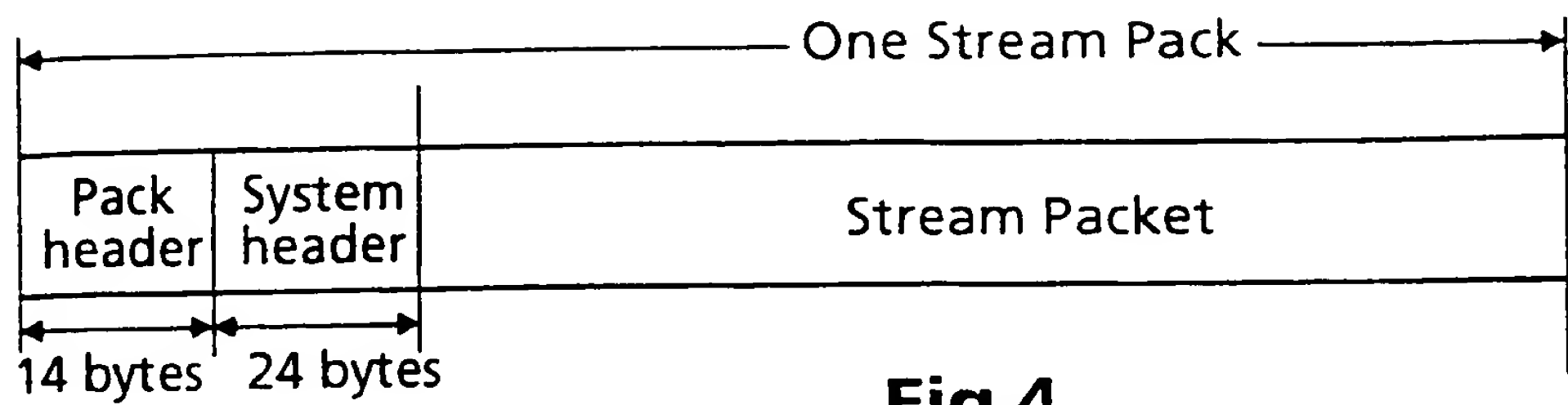


Fig.4

	VOBU#n	Δ DUR#n
DAV →	VOBU#i	Δ DUR#i
	VOBU#3	Δ DUR#3
	VOBU#2	Δ DUR#2
	VOBU#1	Δ DUR#1

Fig.5

	Contents	Number of Bytes
(1) MAPU_SZ	Mapping Unit Size	2
(2) MTU_SHFT	Mapping Time Unit Shift	1
(3) reserved	reserved	1
(4) MAPL_ENT_Ns	Number of Mapping List Entries	4
(5) S_S_APAT	Stream Start APAT	8
(6) S_E_APAT	Stream End APAT	8
	Total	24

Fig.6

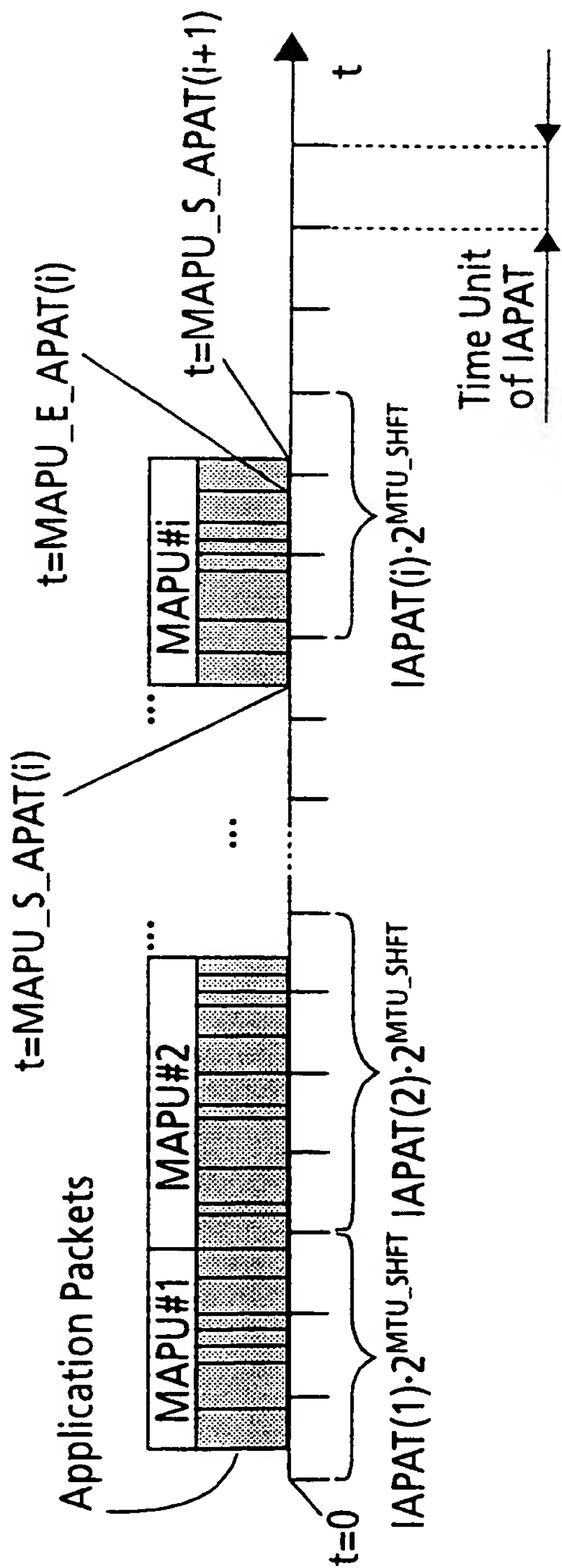


Fig.7

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 99/06254

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G11B27/32 G11B20/12 G11B27/10

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G11B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP 0 797 204 A (PIONEER ELECTRONIC CORP) 24 September 1997 (1997-09-24) page 2, line 28 -page 3, line 4; figure 5 page 12, line 25-42 page 18, line 31-49 ---	1,2,4
Y	FR 2 759 471 A (SONY CORP) 14 August 1998 (1998-08-14) page 21, line 21 -page 25, line 12 ---	1,2
Y	page 11, line 22 -page 12, line 25 ---	4
A	EP 0 729 153 A (HITACHI LTD) 28 August 1996 (1996-08-28) column 3, line 45 -column 4, line 13; figure 2 --- -/-	1,2

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 December 1999

Date of mailing of the international search report

21/12/1999

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
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Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 apo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Mourik, J

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 99/06254

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0 673 034 A (SONY CORP) 20 September 1995 (1995-09-20) page 25, line 13 -page 28, line 4; figures 34-40	1,2
A	US 5 630 005 A (ORT JEFFREY) 13 May 1997 (1997-05-13) claim 1	1,2

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP 99/06254

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0797204 A	24-09-1997	JP 9251763 A	22-09-1997
FR 2759471 A	14-08-1998	JP 10222316 A	21-08-1998
EP 0729153 A	28-08-1996	JP 8235833 A	13-09-1996
		CN 1135072 A	06-11-1996
		CN 1229235 A	22-09-1999
		EP 0930618 A	21-07-1999
EP 0673034 A	20-09-1995	AU 681259 B	21-08-1997
		AU 1824595 A	18-09-1995
		BR 9505853 A	21-02-1996
		CA 2160913 A	08-09-1995
		CN 1115076 A	17-01-1996
		CN 1124062 A	05-06-1996
		EP 0696799 A	14-02-1996
		JP 7311950 A	28-11-1995
		WO 9524037 A	08-09-1995
		PL 311310 A	05-02-1996
		SG 24104 A	10-02-1996
		US 5734787 A	31-03-1998
		US 5592450 A	07-01-1997
		US 5596565 A	21-01-1997
		US 5745505 A	28-04-1998
US 5630005 A	13-05-1997	NONE	

REC'D 10 NOV 2000

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PD980062	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/EP99/06254	International filing date (day/month/year) 26/08/1999	Priority date (day/month/year) 07/09/1998
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G11B27/32		
Applicant DEUTSCHE THOMSON-BRANDT GMBH et al.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.



2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

- ☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 3 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 09/03/2000	Date of completion of this report 08.11.2000
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized officer Schepens, A Telephone No. +49 89 2399 2627 

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/EP99/06254

I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).):*

Description, pages:

2-14 as originally filed

1 as received on 26/10/2000 with letter of 23/10/2000

Claims, No.:

1-5 as received on 26/10/2000 with letter of 23/10/2000

Drawings, sheets:

1/3-3/3 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/EP99/06254

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:
- ☐ the drawings, sheets:

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims	1-5
	No:	Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	1-5
	No:	Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-5
	No:	Claims	

2. Citations and explanations
see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/EP99/06254

According to the invention the duration of the separate data pieces /(sectors) having a constant number of bits at variable transfer rate, is recorded in a table when recording this data. Thereby it is easy to search a certain piece by accumulating the durations of the preceding pieces.

None of the cited prior art discloses or teaches the forming and use of such a table.

The invention relates to a method and to an apparatus for addressing a bitstream to be recorded or being recorded on a storage medium, e.g. an optical disc.

Background

In bitstream recording one is free to subdivide the bitstream into sub-units of more regular structure. Presentation data in DVDs (digital video or versatile disc) is organised into units called Video Object Unit, denoted VOB, e.g. in the RTRW Specification for Realtime Rewritable Video DVDs. VOBs have a variable size (data amount measured in number of sectors), but have also a variable duration (measured in number of video fields).

For data retrieval from the disc the RTRW specification foresees a 'VOB map' which is a table where for every VOB in a recording the length in sectors and the duration in fields is entered.

EP-A-0 729 153 discloses a table that is used for trick play mode, in which table a time code is assigned to each sector on an optical disc suited for variable transfer rate.

Invention

A table for data retrieval from a storage medium can be based on bitstream data being subdivided into pieces of constant duration. 'Duration' means the difference between the arrival time of the first packet of a piece and the arrival time of the packet following immediately the last packet of that piece.

'Housekeeping' in the general context of either RTRW recording or Stream recording is the task to translate a given time value (presentation time in case of RTRW recording or packet arrival time in case of Stream recording) into a disc address value where the desired data can be found.

Claims

- 5 1. Method for addressing pieces (VOBU#i) of a bitstream to be recorded or being recorded on a storage medium (STRD), wherein an address table (HAT) is used that assigns time information to said pieces and wherein each of said pieces (VOBU#i) includes a constant number of bits, char-
- 10 acterised by:
- said pieces contain data packets;
 - to each address table entry for said pieces a delta time duration value ($\Delta\text{DUR}\#i$) is assigned in said address table (HAT), wherein such delta time duration value is the dif-

15 ference between the arrival time of the first data packet of a piece and the arrival time of the data packet following immediately the last data packet of that piece;

 - to get the value for a target piece address (DAV), the corresponding delta time durations become accumulated un-

20 til a given time value is most closely reached towards said target piece.
- 25 2. Method according to claim 1, wherein said storage medium (STRD) is a Streamer device or a DVD recorder.
- 30 3. Method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said delta time duration values ($\Delta\text{DUR}\#i$) are assigned in said address table (HAT) using a running index (i) and wherein the running index of the target piece table entry becomes multiplied by said constant bit number in order to compute said address value.
- 35 4. Method according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the size of a piece corresponds to the number of bits of an ECC block or a multiple thereof.
5. Storage medium containing pieces (VOBU#i) of a bitstream and an address table (HAT) that assigns time information

to said pieces, wherein each of said pieces (VOBU#i) includes a constant number of bits, characterised by:

- 5 - said pieces contain data packets;
- to each address table entry for said pieces a delta time duration value ($\Delta\text{DUR}\#i$) is assigned in said address table (HAT), wherein such delta time duration value is the difference between the arrival time of the first data packet
- 10 of a piece and the arrival time of the data packet following immediately the last data packet of that piece.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

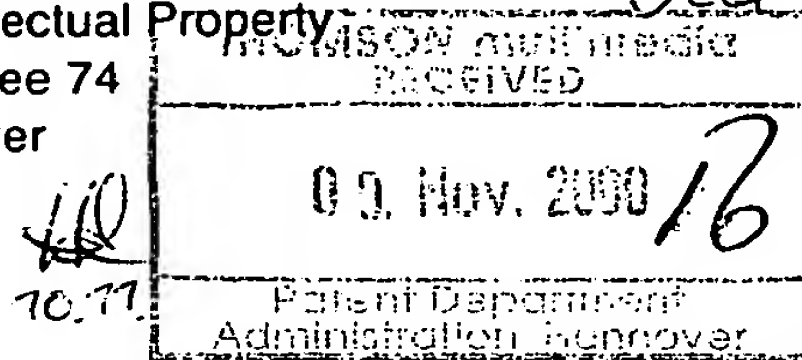
EXPRESS MAIL EL68244860
USFrom the
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1)

To:

HARTNACK, Wolfgang
DEUTSCHE THOMSON-BRANDT GMBH
Licensing & Intellectual Property
Karl-Wiechert-Allee 74
D-30625 Hannover
ALLEMAGNEDate of mailing
(day/month/year)

08.11.2000

Applicant's or agent's file reference
PD980062 ✓

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.
PCT/EP99/06254International filing date (day/month/year)
26/08/1999Priority date (day/month/year)
07/09/1998

Applicant

DEUTSCHE THOMSON-BRANDT GMBH et al.

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.

4. REMINDER

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/



European Patent Office
D-80298 Munich
Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d
Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465

Authorized officer

Slater, S

Tel. +49 89 2399-2565



METHOD FOR ADDRESSING A BITSTREAM RECORDING

REPLACED BY
ART 34 ADAPT

5

The invention relates to a method and to an apparatus for addressing a bitstream to be recorded or being recorded on a storage medium, e.g. an optical disc.

10

Background

In bitstream recording one is free to subdivide the bitstream into sub-units of more regular structure. Presentation data in DVDs (digital video or versatile disc) is organised into units called Video Object Unit, denoted VOB, e.g. in the RTRW Specification for Realtime Rewritable Video DVDs. VOBs have a variable size (data amount measured in number of sectors), but have also a variable duration (measured in number of video fields).

20

For data retrieval from the disc the RTRW specification foresees a 'VOB map' which is a table where for every VOB in a recording the length in sectors and the duration in fields is entered.

25

Invention

A table for data retrieval from a storage medium can be based on bitstream data being subdivided into pieces of constant duration. 'Duration' means the difference between the arrival time of the first packet of a piece and the arrival time of the packet following immediately the last packet of that piece.

35

'Housekeeping' in the general context of either RTRW recording or Stream recording is the task to translate a given time value (presentation time in case of RTRW recording or packet arrival time in case of Stream recording) into a disc address value where the desired data can be found.

Claims

- 5 1. Method for addressing a bitstream to be recorded or being recorded on a storage medium (STRD), wherein an address table (HAT) is used that is based on pieces (VOBU#n) of said bitstream, characterised by:
- said pieces (VOBU#n) each include a constant amount of
10 bits of said bitstream;
 - to each address table entry for said pieces an absolute time duration or a delta time duration ($\Delta\text{DUR}\#n$) is assigned in said address table using a running index (1, 2, 3, ..., n);
 - 15 - in case of absolute time duration values storage:
in order to get an address value for reaching a target address (DAV) the nearest corresponding absolute time duration entry ($\Delta\text{DUR}\#i$) of said address table (HAT) is selected and the corresponding running index (i) becomes
20 multiplied by said constant amount in order to compute said address value, or,
 - in case of delta time duration values storage:
in order to get an address value for reaching a target address (DAV) all delta time durations ($\Delta\text{DUR}\#1$, ...
25 $\Delta\text{DUR}\#i$) up to the nearest time duration value corresponding to said address value become accumulated and the running index (i) corresponding to the delta time duration entry ($\Delta\text{DUR}\#i$) related to said nearest time duration value becomes multiplied by said constant amount in order
30 to compute said address value.
2. Method according to claim 1, wherein said storage medium (STRD) is a Streamer device or a DVD recorder.
- 35 3. Method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said pieces (VOBU#n) of said bitstream contain data packets and a delta time duration value which is the difference between

the arrival time of the first packet of a piece and the
arrival time of the packet following immediately the last
5 data packet of that piece.

4. Method according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the
size of a piece corresponds to the number of bits of an
ECC block or a multiple thereof.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PD980062	FOR FURTHER ACTION		see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, Item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/EP 99/ 06254	International filing date (day/month/year) 26/08/1999	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 07/09/1998	
Applicant DEUTSCHE THOMSON-BRANDT GMBH et al.			

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

METHOD FOR ADDRESSING A BIT STREAM RECORDING

5. With regard to the abstract,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

5

☐ None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

T/EP 99/06254

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G11B27/32 G11B20/12 G11B27/10

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G11B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP 0 797 204 A (PIONEER ELECTRONIC CORP) 24 September 1997 (1997-09-24) page 2, line 28 -page 3, line 4; figure 5 page 12, line 25-42 page 18, line 31-49	1,2,4
Y	FR 2 759 471 A (SONY CORP) 14 August 1998 (1998-08-14) page 21, line 21 -page 25, line 12	1,2
Y	page 11, line 22 -page 12, line 25	4
A	EP 0 729 153 A (HITACHI LTD) 28 August 1996 (1996-08-28) column 3, line 45 -column 4, line 13; figure 2	1,2
	-/-	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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Date of the actual completion of the international search

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

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